GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:201
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2005
UPKEEP OF NATIONAL PARKS
Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister during his recent visit to Ranthambore Tiger Reserve expressed his displeasure over the upkeep of the National Parks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the follow up action taken thereon;

(d) whether any new strategy is proposed to be prepared to prevent poaching of tigers and other animals and to improve the upkeep of the parks; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) This Ministry is not aware of any such report.

(b)& (c) Question does not arise.

(d)&(e) Based on the decision taken during the second meeting of the National Board for Wildlife on 17-3-2005, the Prime Minister has constituted a Task Force for reviewing the management of tiger reserves. The Terms of Reference of the Task Force are at Annexure-I.

ANNEXURE-1

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (d) & (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 201 TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, THE 25TH JULY, 2005 ON UPKEEP OF NATIONAL PARKS

The terms of reference of the Task Force are as follows :

1. Suggest measures to strengthen tiger conservation in the country.

2. Suggest measures to incentivise the local community in conservation of tigers.

3. Suggest measures to incentivise local forest staff posted in sanctuaries/national parks and ensure an effective HR plan for tiger conservation/wildlife managers.

4. Suggest measures to improve the methodology of tiger counting and forecasting.

5. Suggest methods of transparent professional audit of wildlife parks and placing data on tiger conservation in the public domain.

6. Suggest a new wildlife management paradigm that shares concerns of conservation with the public at large.